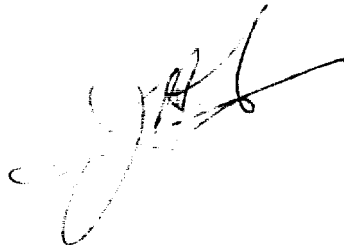


In my own defense I should point out that my review was of Wohlstetter's article in Foreign Policy only and not of the article in Strategic Review. The two articles were not the same.



INFORMATION

*10/1/74*  
*STAT*  
*file*

STAT

Dear [REDACTED]

As a devotee of the Wohlsletters and as a professional intelligence officer for the better part of twenty years (as yourself), I read with great interest Albert Wohlstetter's article in Foreign Policy and Strategic Review wherein he compared estimates with subsequent order of battle and concluded that we have historically underestimated the enemy. My interest was heightened by some related research which I had conducted (primarily relating to estimates of the Middle East) which had come to rather the same conclusion.

Needless to say, I found your review of Prof Wohlstetter's work contained in February's Review of National Intelligence interesting and enlightening. I was particularly pleased to note that the Intelligence Community has recognized and accepted this problem.

I was somewhat puzzled, however, by your statement (p. 56) that Prof. Wohlstetter only used 1964 figures for his SLBM findings. This caused me to take another look at the article as it appeared in STRATEGIC REVIEW (Fall 1974). His Table 1 and Table 2 on page 77, and particularly his Table I-2 on page 87 show that eight years' estimates were used (1962-1969). His figures, I think, basically agree with yours. I am enclosing copies of the tables.

I do not mean to nit-pick but, rather, to congratulate you on a well-conceived and well-written article. I have personally invited the attention of Navy Estimators to both your article and Prof. Wohlstetter's. I hope they will occasion some reflection on the pitfalls of what is, by its nature, a precarious business at best.

Sincerely,

STAT

STAT

[REDACTED]  
Product Review Division  
Intelligence Community Staff  
CIA Building  
Langley, Virginia

STAT

Approved For Release 2005/06/09 : CIA-RDP83M00171R000300270018-7

Next 2 Page(s) In Document Exempt

Approved For Release 2005/06/09 : CIA-RDP83M00171R000300270018-7